

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a condition in a patient requiring removal or destruction of cells comprising administering to a mammal in need a therapeutically effective amount of a neural thread protein (NTP), wherein the NTP is administered at the site of the cells requiring removal or destruction, **and** wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of a tumor, hyperplasia, hypertrophy, **and** overgrowth of tissue, ~~unwanted hair, and a wart, and wherein the NTP is selected from~~ **the group consisting of AD7c-NTP (SEQ ID NO: 10), the proteins identified by SEQ ID NOs. 2 to 9, neural pancreatic thread protein, and pancreatic thread protein.**

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the NTP ~~comprises~~ **is** SEQ ID NO: 10.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the NTP is administered topically.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the NTP is administered by injection.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the condition is a tumor.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein said NTP is chosen from the group consisting of the proteins identified by SEQ ID NOs. 2 to 9, neural pancreatic thread protein, and pancreatic thread protein.

53.-54. (Cancelled)

55. (New) The method of claim 47, where the condition is selected from the group consisting of a benign or malignant tumor of a tissue selected from the group consisting of lung, breast, stomach, pancreas, prostate, bladder, bone, ovary, skin, kidney, sinus, colon, intestine, stomach, rectum, esophagus, heart, spleen, salivary gland, blood, brain and its coverings, spinal cord and its coverings, muscle, connective tissue, adrenal, parathyroid, thyroid, uterus, testis, pituitary, reproductive organs, liver, gall bladder, eye, ear, nose, throat, tonsils, mouth, and lymph nodes and lymphoid system.

56. (New) The method of claim 47, where the condition is selected from the group consisting of a hyperplasia, hypertrophy, or overgrowth of a tissue selected from the group consisting of lung, breast, stomach, pancreas, prostate, bladder, bone, ovary, skin, kidney, sinus, colon, intestine, stomach, rectum, esophagus, heart, spleen, salivary gland, blood, brain and its coverings, spinal cord and its coverings, muscle, connective tissue, adrenal, parathyroid, thyroid, uterus, testis, pituitary, reproductive organs, liver, gall bladder, eye, ear, nose, throat, tonsils, mouth, and lymph nodes and lymphoid system.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the condition is tonsillar hypertrophy.

58. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein the condition is prostatic hyperplasia.

59. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein the NTP is employed in combination with other pharmaceutical compositions, such as cytokines, growth factors, antibiotics, apoptotis-inducing agents, anti-inflammatories, and/or chemotherapeutic agents as is appropriate for the indication being treated.